

PRIMITIVE LETTER POST.

The Earliest Postal Service Dates Back to Babylonia.

No postal service has been traced earlier than that which was in operation during the reign of Khammurabi, the Amraphel of Genesis, who was king of Babylonia about 2300 B. C. A number of the tablets, each inclosed in its clay envelope, which passed through this earliest postoffice are preserved in the Babylonian room of the British Museum, and their contents indicate that even at that period letters were freely circulated throughout the empire by a public postal service under governmental control.

Sir Brian Tuke was appointed postmaster in England at the beginning of the sixteenth century, and in 1556 the lords of the council ordered "that the postmen between this and the North should each of them keep a book and make entry of every letter that he shall receive, the time of the delivery thereof unto his hands, with the parties' names that shall bring it unto him."

The first post for the conveyance of private letters to all parts of England and Scotland was started in 1635, when the "letter office" was established, but it was not till 1837 that the foundation of the present system was laid.

CURED OF HIS CLUB.

The Way One Woman Kept Her Husband Home in the Evening.

"I would be very happy if my husband would not spend so many of his evenings at the club," said Mrs. Hilde, with a sigh.

"Why don't you try the suspicion cure?" said her intimate friend.

"What is the suspicion cure?" asked Mrs. Hilde.

"Well, my husband once got into the habit of spending his evenings at his club, and I worried myself ill. Then I changed my tactics. Instead of asking him to remain at home I urged him to go to the club. The way he raised his eyebrows the first time I suggested it showed that I was on the right track.

"One night he said he had a severe headache and would remain at home. I opposed the idea and insisted that an evening at his club would make him forget his headache. He gave me a hard look, but acted on the suggestion. I knew he would be back within an hour, so I made an elaborate toilet. He returned, as I expected, with the plea that his head was worse. I ignored his suggestion concerning my elaborate toilet. He hasn't been away for an evening since. It is almost like the old honeymoon, only he appears to have something on his mind."

THE LOVING CUP.

Its Origin Dates From the Assassination of King Edward.

The remote origin of the loving cup dates from the story of the assassination of Edward, king and martyr, who was stabbed in the back while drinking. It had been usual at feasts to pass round a large cup, which each, as he goes to drink, lifted with both hands, exposing his body to attack. This custom was altered, so that when one stood up to drink he who sat next became his "pledge" and also drew sword in hand, to protect him.

This practice in a modified form continued long after changed conditions of society had ceased to need it and was the origin of our custom of drinking healths and particularly of the ceremonial, preserved in almost its primitive form, of passing round the loving cup, when, as each person rises and takes the cup in his hand to drink, the guest next to him also rises and grasps the second handle.

Some authorities ascribe its origin to Margaret, consort of Malcolm, king of Scotland, and others to Henry of Navarre—London Truth.

Marriage in the Isles of Greece.

In Kaseo, one of the most southern islands of Greece, the parents upon both sides take upon themselves all the responsibilities of courtship and marriage. Courtship, as we understand it, is not in any way permitted to the betrothed couple. No moonlight walks or tete-a-tetes are allowed. Such a course would be deemed highly reprehensible, and all wooing, if there be any, must take place in the presence of the elders. But there is no great time for repining at these decrees of custom, for the marriage follows the offer as quickly as may be.

Enjoy Advantages.

"Mammy," said Pickaninny Jim, "what does gho's want to come back to dis yearth foh?"

"Dat's a foolish question. Dey kin go whahabber dey wants wifout payin' no house rent nor cah fare, an' nobody can't shet 'em out. Sometimes I reckons dat gho's is de only folks dat rel'y enjoys life."—Washington Star.

A Precaution.

A farmer wrote to his lawyer as follows: "Will you please tell me where you learned to write? I have a boy I wish to send to school, and I am afraid I may hit upon the same school that you went to."

How He Won It.

Goodson—It was Lawyer Townsman that won my lawsuit for me. Simply—Why, I thought he was on the opposing side. Goodson—He was.—T.H.Bits.

Waste of Words.

Miss Withers—When Harold kissed me he told me that he loved me. The maid—What a waste of words!—own Topics.

We hope nobody ever courted as they do on the stage.—Washington (la.) Democrat.

Impatience and pride have destroyed more souls than wickedness.—Massini.

Town Clerk's Notice

-OF-

Registry and Election.

Notice is hereby given that the

Annual Election for Town Officers

IN THE

Town of Bloomfield

WILL BE HELD ON

Tuesday, April 12, 1904.

The Boards of Registry and Election will meet in their respective Election Districts on TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 1904, from 1 to 9 P. M., for the purpose of revising and correcting the Register of Voters. The said Boards will meet and the election be held at the following named places:

First Ward, First District—Schneider's Barber Shop, 31 Broad Street. First Ward, Second District—Store 140 Montgomery Avenue. Second Ward, First District—Excelsior Hose House, 375 Broad Street. Third Ward, First District—Dodd's Hall, 287 Glenwood Avenue. Third Ward, Second District—Active House, 36 Willow Street.

The Polls will be Open on Election Day from 6 a. m. to 7 p. m.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS ARE TO BE VOTED FOR:

A Councilman-at-Large, one Councilman from each of the First, Second and Third Wards. One member of the Board of Education from each of the First, Second and Third Wards; three Constables from each of the First, Second and Third Wards, and three Justices of the Peace.

WM. L. JOHNSON.

Town Clerk.

Dated: BLOOMFIELD, N. J., March 7, 1904.



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